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Fund transfer from bond authority will cut into state deficit

PROVIDENCE – General Treasurer Frank Caprio announced last week that he has authorized the transfer of \$323,976 from the state's refunding bond authority to the state's general fund in an attempt to help reduce Rhode Island's looming budget deficit.

The transfer of funds, which follows Caprio's announcement last month to have his top managers forego a week's pay to save state money, was approved by Caprio after working with the governor's budget office and the general auditor's office to outline an alternative plan for contingency expense, according to a news release. However, Caprio said he does not expect any contingencies to arise, in part because of his office's work to "conduct accurate bond transactions, eliminating the need for an ongoing, large reserve fund."

Last October, Caprio worked with the General Assembly to authorize a bond refunding, which was conducted in November. Caprio said the refunding of four certificates of participation resulted in a total savings to the state of \$2.9 million.